

THE MAINE FARMER: AN AGRICULTURAL AND FAMILY NEWSPAPER.

The Maine Farmer.

Augusta, Saturday, Jan. 23, 1899.

TERMS OF THE MAINE FARMER.
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COLLECTOR'S NOTICE.
Mr. J. D. Loring is now canvassing the county of Penobscot.

Divorces in Maine.

It will be seen from the proceedings of the Legislature, published in another column, that a bill has been introduced into the House, providing, by an amendment to the present law, that the party for whose fault a divorce is decreed, may be disabled from marrying during the life of the other party. In one case this disability is to be made absolute, and in all other cases to be discretionary with the judges. The prominence which bills for divorce are said to have acquired in the business of our courts, and the alarming facility with which the decrees are obtained, are calculated to excite inquiry and discussion in regard to the condition of our laws; but the bill above referred to, if it should have a passage, will be the first movement in favor of the more stringent divorce laws which formerly existed in a majority of the States. For the last fifty years and more, the uniform tendency in nearly all of the old States, has been to enlarge the grounds for which divorces are granted, so that the divorce laws have perhaps, on the whole, been found more liberal at the end of every ten years. It cannot be denied that the feeling of sanctity attached to the marriage relation has very materially declined, and that the frequency of divorces has largely increased within that period. It therefore becomes an important inquiry whether either or both of these admitted facts can be justly ascribed to liberal divorce laws.

History discloses a variety of pragmatic and opinion on this subject, in different countries, in ancient and modern times. It shows, however, in almost every instance, that as the people depart from the natural simplicity and purity of earlier customs, and begin to feel the influence of luxurious habits and artificial manners, they also exhibit a tendency to break away from the doctrine of indissoluble marriages, and demand greater facility of divorce. It is said that the Roman republic had existed five hundred years when the first instance of a divorce occurred; while by the civil law either party might renounce the marriage union at pleasure, and therefore not to be dissolved from the force of the most published laws of the republic. These voluntary divorces were abolished by one of the laws of Justinian, but were afterwards revived for the reason that while "nothing ought to be held so sacred in civil society as marriage," yet the "hatred, misery and crimes flowing from indissoluble connections," required as a necessary remedy the restoration of the old law by which marriage was dissolved by mutual will and consent.

In modern Europe divorces are not allowed in the Roman Catholic countries, because marriage is considered a sacrament, and therefore not to be dissolved from the force of the laws of the parties. This was formerly the case in France; but the French revolution, which swept away the laws and usages of ages, also made war upon the marriage contract, and six thousand divorces are said to have taken place in the city of Paris in the space of two years and three months. The code Napoleon regarding marriage purely as a civil contract, authorized divorces upon mutual consent according to the usage of the ancient Romans.

This great facility of separation must always tend in some degree to inflame every trifling domestic dispute, as well to destroy mutual confidence, and prevent due effort at reconciliation. The reaction of such laws on the community which frames and enforces them, may also appear in the greatest abuse of the divorce law, and therefore not to be dissolved from the force of the laws of the parties. This was formerly the case in France; but the French revolution, which swept away the laws and usages of ages, also made war upon the marriage contract, and six thousand divorces are said to have taken place in the city of Paris in the space of two years and three months. The code Napoleon regarding marriage purely as a civil contract, authorized divorces upon mutual consent according to the usage of the ancient Romans.

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Farmers' Convention in this City.

The programme decided upon for the Farmers' Convention to be held in this city on Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday of next week, will be to discuss the matter of the proposed change in the Constitution of the Maine Farmers' Union, and to elect officers for the coming year.

Wednesday, Jan. 26th. The convention will assemble at 10 o'clock A. M., at the Agricultural Rooms at the State House. After the organization of the convention, and remarks from the President, the exhibition of potatoes, and a discussion on Potato Culture, will take place, occupying the forenoon. At 2 o'clock P. M., a lecture by Hon. Thos. S. Lang, on the Raising of Horses, in Representatives Hall. In the evening a lecture by Prof. C. F. Brackett of Bowdoin College, on the Parasites of Animals.

Thursday, Jan. 27th. Annual meeting of the State Agricultural Society, for the choice of officers, and transaction of the annual business, at 10 o'clock A. M. At 2 o'clock P. M. lecture by Hon. Henry F. French of Boston, ex-President of Mass. Agricultural Society, on Farm Drainage. At 7 P. M. lecture by Prof. Geo. L. Goodale of Bowdoin College, on Health and Disease in Plants.

Friday, Jan. 28th. Convention will meet in connection with the Board of Agriculture, at the rooms of the Board at 10 A. M. At 2 P. M. second lecture of Hon. Henry F. French on Farm Drainage. At 7 P. M. lecture by Dr. Geo. B. Loring, of Salem, Mass., President of New England Agricultural Society, on Breeding of Stock.

Saturday, Jan. 29th. Meet at 10 A. M. in rooms of the Board. At 2 P. M. lecture by Dr. Henry Byington of Woodstock, Vt., on Sheep Husbandry in New England. In the evening a lecture will be delivered by Dr. Geo. B. Loring on the Harmony of action between the Agricultural Societies, the Board of Agriculture, and the Industrial College.

Following each exercise, all unassigned time will be devoted to discussions upon the subject previously presented by the person named in the programme, and to questions and replies arising in connection therewith. All interested in the property and advancement of agriculture are invited to be present, and aid and share in the success of this, the first Farmers' Convention of Maine.

BOARD OF AGRICULTURE. The Board of Agriculture met at the State House yesterday—Wednesday—and organized by choice of the following officers: President—Hon. Samuel Wason, of Ellsworth. Vice President—Hon. Seth Seaborn, of Scarborough. Secretary—S. L. Goodale, Esq., of Saco.

Message.—A. R. Boardman, South Norwalk, Conn., in a report of agricultural progress will be given in the Farmers' convention with our next issue.

GEN. HOWARD VINDICATED. A Washington dispatch says that the Council called by the First Congregational church of that city, in relation to matters of disagreement between Gen. Howard and the pastor, has rendered its decision and adjourned. The result was unanimously adopted, substantially in the words of Gen. Howard and his friends, and condemns the peculiar course of the Rev. Dr. Byington, and the small majority who consider themselves the church. It advises that nearly all the acts complained of by Gen. Howard were unexceptionable and approve.

It expresses doubt of the success of the enterprise should Dr. Byington continue as its pastor. This is the more remarkable, as the Council was called by Dr. Byington and his friends for their own justification, and Gen. Howard and his friends had no voice in its selection. The Portland Press well says "this Maine will be received by Gen. Howard's friends with peculiar satisfaction, as they have watched with deep regret a controversy from which his enemies have wrongly drawn conclusions not consistent with his character as a gentleman and Christian."

DR. FULTON'S LECTURE. The second lecture in the Y. M. C. A. course was delivered on Thursday evening last week, by Rev. Dr. Fulton, of Tremont Temple. Subject: "Whom shall we Trust?" As a literary production, the lecture was not of a high order, but as a platform entertainment, given with the same skill and power of Mr. Fulton, it was excellent. It was a pleasing exposition of incidents and illustrations bearing upon the great truth of trust, which pervades, or should pervade every department of life. It contained valuable truths and suggestions, and some portions of it rose to the dignity of real eloquence. His sparkling style and enthusiastic manner did not fail to hold the close attention of a large audience for an hour and a half.

The next lecture will be this (Thursday) evening, Jan. 21, by Rev. Stephen H. Tyng, Esq., of Brooklyn, N. Y. Subject: "John Bunyan."

THE JUDGES OF THE PROBATE COURTS for the several counties of the State were in council in this city last week, for the purpose, as stated by the *Kennebec Journal*, of consulting on probate matters, and comparing views and practice in the courts of the several counties in the State, with the intention of proposing such amendments to the probate laws as the interests of the community seem to require. In furtherance of their object they had an interview with the Judiciary Committee of the Legislature. During their stay in this city, the judges, eleven in number, were admirably photographed together in a group, by Mr. Hendee, the popular artist. The likenesses are all excellent ones.

THE SCHOOLS OF THE VILLAGE DISTRICT will resume their sessions on Monday next, with the exception of the High School, the re-opening of which will be deferred to Monday, Feb. 1st. The Directors have deferred the services of Mr. W. H. Lambert, of Castine, as Principal of the High School in place of Mr. Jackson, the former teacher. Mr. Lambert is an experienced teacher, and is believed to be well qualified for the position. A new teacher has also been engaged for the Girls' Grammar School, on Winslow street, Miss K. Jennie Brooks of Lewiston, in place of Miss Keith, who assumed temporary charge of the school during the last term.

WESTON ARREST. We learn from the Bangor *Whig* that Weston, the celebrated pianist, on Tuesday afternoon, at 4 o'clock, on his five thousand mile tramp, his route will be the same as before. Said down, it is said that he is now amply supplied with food, the lack of which was the cause of his failure on his former trip. He is accompanied by Mr. Cassius Moore, reporter for the New York *Tribune*; Daniel Palmer, agent for the expedition; Mr. Geo. W. Harman and Frank Totten. We learn that he arrived at Bangor at 5:25, and arrived at Waterville at 7:30. This is about the same rate of time that he made in his first trip.

THE CONCERT on Wednesday evening of last week, given by Miss Alice Dutton, the celebrated pianist, assisted by Mrs. Smith, Mrs. Hall and the Messrs. Wagon, was regarded as a rich treat by all in attendance. Miss Dutton's skillful and artistic performance were highly commended, and all the vocalists performed their parts to the satisfaction and delight of the audience. But the enjoyment was impaired by a feeling of sympathy for the accomplished artist, who had come to the capital of Maine and was received with such a pitifully small audience.

MEETING OF THE GRAND ARMY OF REPUBLIC to be held in this city on Thursday of the present week. Among the most important matters for consideration will be the establishment of an orphan asylum. The State will be asked to give it an endowment. It is not intended to have it endowed for the exclusive benefit of soldiers' orphans, but for a general public charity. The asylum at Bath or Bangor may be selected for this purpose, or a new one may be established.

AT A MEETING of the O. O. Howard Encampment, Post No. 20, G. A. R., of Augusta, on Saturday evening, 9th inst., the following comrades were installed officers for the ensuing six months: E. F. Wynn, Commander; J. T. Woodworth, S. E. V. F. Wynn, Adjutant; R. Y. Crockett, Q. M.; J. O. Webster, Sergeant; A. H. Chamberlain; Chaplain; Lewis Seibert, Sergeant Major; Edgar Atkins, Q. M. S.

MR. A. M. SAVAGE of Skowhegan, has sold his horse "Station" to a gentleman in New York for \$3000. A good horse and a good price.

Legislative Proceedings.

The record of the doings of the Legislature for the past week is of the most meagre character. The Senate took no action on any of the bills introduced, and the House took no action on any of the bills introduced, and the House took no action on any of the bills introduced.

AMONG THE VARIOUS MATTERS presented for consideration, which are of special public importance, may be mentioned the following:

To amend the Constitution of the State so that women may be allowed the exercise of the elective franchise.

To amend the laws relating to divorce, so that when a divorce is decreed for the cause of adultery the guilty party shall not be permitted to again marry during the life of the other party.

A bill to prevent the manufacture and sale of poisonous liquors.

The several topics alluded to in the Governor's message were referred to appropriate committees. That portion which relates to Capital Punishment is to be considered by the Judiciary Committee.

On Saturday last, the State Liquor Commission's Report was presented. It says the gross sales of the year have come to \$105,861.30; commissions, \$1,481.32. He complains that in various towns there are places where liquors are sold in large quantities, and the liquor is sold in large quantities, and the liquor is sold in large quantities.

Mr. Abbot of Glenburn, the Chairman of the Committee of Agriculture, proposed an order of inquiry with a view to additional legislation for the prevention of cruelty to animals.

On Tuesday, at half-past eleven o'clock, the two Houses proceeded to ballot by concurrent action for a United States Senator. The vote in the Senate stood as follows: For Hannibal Hamlin, 23; A. P. Gould, 2; Albert L. In the House, for Hannibal Hamlin, 118; A. P. Gould, 3; J. L. Chamberlain, 1; L. M. Morrill, 1; Albert L. And Mr. Hamlin was accordingly elected.

END OF THE JEFF. DAVIS CASE. In the Criminal Court of the District of Columbia on Wednesday last, District Attorney Carrington called the attention of the jury to the fact that the defendant, Jeff. Davis, had been charged with treason against the United States.

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Items of State News.

The Journal says a girl about seven years of age, daughter of John Daley, an employee at the glassworks, residing in Lewiston, being asked by her grandmother to get up Saturday, 9th inst., about 8 o'clock, and bring her a match, proceeded to obey her, but in striking the match, her night dress caught fire and before assistance could be rendered, she was so shockingly burned that she died at 2 o'clock Sunday morning.

We learn from the Portland papers that the British brig *Brands* sailed from Pictou Nova Scotia, for that port, late in October last, from Nova Scotia. She had three passengers, two of whom were Misses Rankin. The schooner *What Cheer* reports that about the 1st of November, the brig was at Lincoln, N. S., about forty miles east of Halifax, where she had put in for a harbor. She sailed in company with the *What Cheer* for Portland, the latter arriving in about a week; the *J. B.* has not since been heard from.

Mr. Charles Roberts, formerly one of the proprietors of the *Tonine House* in Brunswick, and the father of Mrs. S. C. Morgan of Waterville, was recently murdered in New York in broad daylight.

A small lad was crossing down a steep road in Bath, which crosses a railroad, when a freight train came along. While the boy-stayers held their breath in horror, expecting to see him cut to pieces, he shot of the car, coming out safely on the lower side.

The morning train on the Grand Trunk Railway, Thursday, waited two hours for the payment of a car to reach Island Point, ran off the track twice in getting through New Hampshire, and at Bryant's Pond for the P. M. train from Portland, and finally reached Danville Junction at 7 o'clock in the evening.

The *Aroostook Pioneer* learns that two barns belonging to Mr. Combs of Mattawamkeag, were destroyed by fire on Thursday night last. The fire occurred in the L. which was destroyed, and the furniture much damaged. It was with difficulty the house was saved from destruction. The stock in the barns was not lost.

Rev. E. Planchon of Salsgwick, aged some 78 years, fell upon the ice last week injuring him so severely in the hip that he is helpless, and fears are entertained that he may not recover.

The Bangor *Whig* thinks there is double the amount of far being taken in this State this season than was last year. In that vicinity quite an unusual number of miak and foxes have been taken, and miaks are now from \$2 to \$3 more than earlier in the season.

The Bangor *Whig* says the big trout sent to Oliver Optic by Dr. Hamlin, is of the species described as the *Salmo Tolo*. The length is three feet five and one-half inches, and he weighs two feet and one-fourth of a pound.

The *Gardiner Journal* understands that a petition for the re-enactment of a State police law, has lately received the signature of six hundred names in that locality.

In Rockland, on Thursday morning a fire broke out in the house of John J. Perry, one of the finest residences in that city. It was subdued before the house was destroyed, but not until damage to the amount of several thousand dollars had been done to furniture.

A man by the name Melville Nash, of Harrington, aged about 31 years, committed suicide in that town, on Wednesday night, by hanging himself while laboring under temporary insanity.

The fish yacht *Sunshine*, twenty-seven tons, built at Wiscasset in 1891, and lately employed in the revenue service by Government, was sold at auction on the 11th inst., to Walter Hatch of Portland, for \$1225. She cost \$8000.

The *Dexter Gazette* speaks of an old lady residing in Canton, in this State, by the name of Winslow, who will be one hundred and two years old on the 24th of March next. She still retains most of her faculties, except her sight. During the past year she has knit stockings as well as would be done by any one.

The Bangor *Whig* says the Mayor and Aldermen have inspected the E. N. A. Railroad to its present terminus at Olmsted. They report the road in excellent condition, trains running regularly to Olmsted, and rolling stock in good order. The business prospects of the line are very encouraging. Freight accumulates at the Olmsted depot faster than they can well transport it.

The Portland *Press* says that the house of Mr. Lewis Goodwin of Buxton, near Bur Mill village, was destroyed by fire on Wednesday morning about 1 o'clock. The house was unoccupied at the time, and it is probable that the fire was the work of an incendiary.

The *Portland Press* says: Mr. P. M. J. Jeffers of Foxcroft, has the largest pair of oxen ever owned or raised in this country—the net weight of both being over 4200 pounds—one alone weighing 2250 pounds. The age of this pair is only five years.

The *Free Press* says an assessment of twenty per cent. has been made at a recent meeting of the Directors of Knox & Lincoln Railroad. The work is going on well, the weather having been very favorable for winter work.

The *Bath Times* is informed that the person accused of having been lost overboard from the ship *Prussia*, Capt. Patten, was without doubt, a young man by the name of Melvin Kree, and belonged in Brunswick. He was about twenty-one years of age.

We are informed that as Col. Lewis Chase of Fayette, was crossing what is known as Berry's pond last Wednesday, with four oxen attached to a sled, the ice gave way and let them into deep water. It was with difficulty that they were saved from drowning.

The bark *Bride*, of London, Irwin master, was wrecked six miles east of Cutler, on the night of the 1st inst., during a thick snow storm. She was loaded with coal, and bound from St. John for London. The hull broke up and the cargo will probably be lost.

The *Aroostook Pioneer* says that Gardner Roberts moved to Saco some eight years ago with nothing except a poor man's blessing—a plenty of children. He owns now, free from debt, a good farm, stock of cattle, two horses, and quite a flock of sheep. He raised this year 100 bushels of good wheat, and 375 bushels of buckwheat, besides large quantities of potatoes, turnips, &c. He has just moved into a new house recently erected.

Conductors Mitchell and Lincoln, of the Portland & Kennebec Railroad, have been presented with elegant gold badges in appreciation of their gentlemanly deportment and faithful discharge of duty to the traveling public.

Rev. George N. Marden, pastor of the Congregational Church of Olden, has resigned his pastorate, and accepted a position in the Howard University at Washington.

The *Machias Union* states that the revolution in Cuba and war in South America, disastrously affected the lumber trade of Machias. Between December and March, orders for cargoes for shipment to the West Indies are usually brisk, but this winter is a striking exception; there are very few if any.

The *Farmington Chronicle* says one day last week, the mother of Dr. L. H. Wright, of that village, aged about eighty-seven years, fell the entire length of the stairs, badly bruising her face and the body. She was taken up in an insensible condition, and doubts are entertained of her recovery.

The *Gardiner Journal* says that the ice men are busy now filling their houses, and are getting very few ice. The winter has been very favorable to them, as they have had but little scraping now to do. The Knickerbocker Company's houses are full.

We learn from the Portland *Advertiser* that within the past year, the Portland Post of the G. A. R. has expended about \$1200 in aiding disabled soldiers and widows and orphans of soldiers.

The *Machias Union* says that the Eastern Express brought six or seven hundred dollars worth of nets for the Addison smelt fishery. The fishermen are doing a good business meeting. They ship the smelts to Boston. Buyers take them on the spot where they are caught; the highest price paid is eight cents, the lowest four cents per pound.

The *Gardiner Journal* says that a little son of Mr. R. F. Chase of that city, fell through an open trap door in the store of Jack & Partridge, striking his head and receiving fatal injuries. He remained senseless until his death.

The *Waterville Mail* says Mr. Moor shows a little brick of solid silver, weighing fifteen ounces, melted from the ore of his Garland mine. Men are engaged, making a shift and the proprietors seem to have full faith in their enterprise.

The Markets.

Special Report to the Maine Farmer via International Telegraph Company.

Cattle Markets.

AT BRIGHTON, CAMBRIDGE AND MEDFORD.

At Market this week, 2008 cattle; 1297 sheep. Last week, 1830 cattle, 925 sheep, 777 pigs.

From Maine, 112 cattle, 175 sheep.

PRIED.

Heavy—Extra quality, \$12.00; 1st quality, \$11.00; 2nd quality, \$10.00; 3rd quality, \$9.00; 4th quality, \$8.00; 5th quality, \$7.00; 6th quality, \$6.00; 7th quality, \$5.00; 8th quality, \$4.00; 9th quality, \$3.00; 10th quality, \$2.00; 11th quality, \$1.00; 12th quality, \$0.50; 13th quality, \$0.25; 14th quality, \$0.10; 15th quality, \$0.05; 16th quality, \$0.02; 17th quality, \$0.01; 18th quality, \$0.005; 19th quality, \$0.002; 20th quality, \$0.001.

Medium—Extra quality, \$10.00; 1st quality, \$9.00; 2nd quality, \$8.00; 3rd quality, \$7.00; 4th quality, \$6.00; 5th quality, \$5.00; 6th quality, \$4.00; 7th quality, \$3.00; 8th quality, \$2.00; 9th quality, \$1.00; 10th quality, \$0.50; 11th quality, \$0.25; 12th quality, \$0.10; 13th quality, \$0.05; 14th quality, \$0.02; 15th quality, \$0.01; 16th quality, \$0.005; 17th quality, \$0.002; 18th quality, \$0.001.

Light—Extra quality, \$8.00; 1st quality, \$7.00; 2nd quality, \$6.00; 3rd quality, \$5.00; 4th quality, \$4.00; 5th quality, \$3.00; 6th quality, \$2.00; 7th quality, \$1.00; 8th quality, \$0.50; 9th quality, \$0.25; 10th quality, \$0.10; 11th quality, \$0.05; 12th quality, \$0.02; 13th quality, \$0.01; 14th quality, \$0.005; 15th quality, \$0.002; 16th quality, \$0.001.

Small—Extra quality, \$6.00; 1st quality, \$5.00; 2nd quality, \$4.00; 3rd quality, \$3.00; 4th quality, \$2.00; 5th quality, \$1.00; 6th quality, \$0.50; 7th quality, \$0.25; 8th quality, \$0.10; 9th quality, \$0.05; 10th quality, \$0.02; 11th quality, \$0.01; 12th quality, \$0.005; 13th quality, \$0.002; 14th quality, \$0.001.

Very Small—Extra quality, \$4.00; 1st quality, \$3.00; 2nd quality, \$2.00; 3rd quality,

